

North Yorkshire County Council

Pension Board

14 April 2016

Training

1.0 Purpose of the Report

To provide an update on Pension Board member training.

2.0 Background

The Training Policy was adopted by the Pension Board at its inaugural meeting on 30 July 2015. This set out the knowledge and understanding requirements of members of the Pension Board, routes to obtaining training, and training review arrangements.

It states that the suitability of training events and activities should be based on a self-assessment carried out by each Pension Board member. The regulations place the responsibility for making this assessment, and subsequent action to ensure Pension Board members have an appropriate level of knowledge and understanding, on the individual members. In addition, the Pensions Regulator requires that Pension Board members invest time in learning and development.

3.0 Training Activity

Detailed in Appendix 1 are training events attended and activities undertaken by Pension Board members. Board members are asked to review the training record and advise officers if updates are required.

Pension Board members may wish to discuss the merits of recently undertaken training activity and where appropriate the pros and cons, to inform other Board members of its usefulness.

4.0 Training Opportunities

As well as being described as a requirement in the Training Policy, it is good practice for all Pension Board members to have completed a formal self-assessment document. It is also good practice to review this document annually. Pension Board members are therefore asked to complete or update their self-assessment document as appropriate.

The Pensions Regulator described the modules on its website as “essential to achieve the required level of trustee knowledge and understanding” and “essential learning for those working with or running public service schemes”. The Pension Board agreed at its meeting on 30 July 2015 that these modules would be completed by all members. It is therefore recommended that any remaining modules are completed in due course.

Appendix 2 highlights certain training events identified by officers of the Pension Fund. There will of course also be other events not on this schedule that will provide training opportunities. In either case, Pension Board members are asked to discuss their suitability in addressing specific learning and development requirements with officers who will make arrangements if appropriate.

5.0 Recommendation

Members should complete or update their self-assessment document as appropriate and complete the modules on the Pension Regulators website.

BARRY KHAN
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall
Northallerton
SML

April 2016

Background Documents: None

Date	Title or Nature of Course	Sponsor/ Organiser	Venue	David Portlock - Chair	Mandy Swithenbank	Stella Smethurst	Ben Drake	Gordon Gresty	Louise Branford-White	Cllr Mike Jordan	Cllr Ian Cuthberston	Phil MacDonald
04/06/2015	Training event for Pension Board Members	LGA	Marriott Hotel, Leeds			x		x	x	x		
03/07/2015	Pension Board Member Training	AON	Leeds		x					x		
17/07/2015	Pension Board Member Training	AON	Leeds		x	x				x		
24/07/2015	Pension Board Member Training	AON	Leeds		x	x				x		
21/10/2015	LGPS Trustee Training FundamentalsXIV	LGA			x	x		x				
17/11/2015	LGPS Trustee Training FundamentalsXIV	LGA		x	x	x		x				
08/12/2015	LGPS Trustee Training FundamentalsXIV	LGA		x	x	x	x	x		x	x	

x = completed

PENSION BOARD MEMBERS – TRAINING, MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Training session with Peter Scales (AllenbridgeEpic) – Independent Observer of the North Yorkshire Pension Fund – Governance for the North Yorkshire Pension Board – 14 January 2016

Attendees: –

David Portlock (Independent Chairman), County Councillor Mike Jordan, Councillor Ian Cuthbertson (City of York), Louise Branford-White (Hambleton District Council), Ben Drake, (Unison), Gordon Gresty, Stella Smethurst (Unison) and Mandy Swithenbank (GMB).

Pension Regulator Modules

Could members please update the Clerk as to any of the Regulator Modules that they have completed that are not identified below.

David Portlock (Independent Chairman) – Completed and passed 2 modules (Conflicts of interest and Managing risks and internal controls)

County Councillor Mike Jordan

Councillor Ian Cuthbertson (City of York)

Louise Branford-White (Hambleton District Council)

Ben Drake, (Unison)

Gordon Gresty – Completed and passed 6 modules

Stella Smethurst (Unison)

Mandy Swithenbank (GMB). - Completed and passed 2 modules (Introducing Pension Schemes and the Trustee's role)

North Yorkshire Pension Fund Committee Meetings :-

17 September 2015

Attendees: –

David Portlock (Independent Chairman)

26 November 2015

Attendees: –

David Portlock (Independent Chairman), Ben Drake, (Unison), Stella Smethurst (Unison) and Mandy Swithenbank (GMB).

15 January 2016

Attendees: –

David Portlock (Independent Chairman), Ben Drake, (Unison), Stella Smethurst (Unison) and Mandy Swithenbank (GMB).

25th February 2016

Attendees: –

David Portlock (Independent Chairman), Ben Drake, (Unison) and Stella Smethurst (Unison)

North Yorkshire Pension Fund Manager Meetings

Could Members please advise the Clerk as to their attendance at any of these meetings that they have attended.

Any other relevant training events or meetings

David Portlock (Independent Chairman) – Audit Committee training sessions including on 3 March 2016 - Counter Fraud

County Councillor Mike Jordan - Audit Committee training sessions including on 3 March 2016 - Counter Fraud

Could Members please advise the Clerk as to their attendance at any other relevant training events or meetings that they would like to include on their training record.

TRAINING EVENTS

<i>Provider</i>	<i>Course / Conference Title</i>	<i>Date(s)</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Theme / Subjects Covered</i>
PLSA	Local Authority Conference	16-18 May 2016	Gloucestershire	Efficiency, Transparency and Collaboration: the Major Themes Shaping the Modern LGPS
LGA	LGPS Trustees' Conference	23-24 June 2016	Manchester	Pooling, Costs, Brexit, Valuation, Investments
LGC	Investment Summit	08-09 September 2016	Newport	TBA
PLSA	Annual Conference and Exhibition	19-21 October 2016	Liverpool	TBA
LAPFF	Annual Conference	7-9 December 2016	Bournemouth	TBA